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to D/OCA.

S/n/65

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over which we have no real authority.

I believe this letter does that, although, we are coming close!

STAT

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET INSPECTOR GENERA SUBJECT: (Optional) + 88-0494 Response to Senator Helm's Allegations regarding Panama 1-124 EXTENSION NO. FROM: OCA 88-1328 & OCA 88-1329 John L. Helgerson, Director Office of Congressional Affa DATE 0 2 MAY 1988 TO: (Officer designation, room number, and OFFICER'S COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.) FORWARDED RECEIVED 1. 0 2 MAY 1988 **STAT** Inspector General 0 2 MAY 1988 2. DCI - I believe we 3. 0% MAY 1988 should be conful not to Executive Registry 4. assume responsibility for agencies over which we 0 3 MAY 1988 hom no seal authority. Executive Director I believe this letter ? clos that, although an an coming close! Deputy Director of Central Intelligence STAT Director of WAW 4May 5/10 Central Intelligence 10. 11. Executive Registry **STAT** 12. **ILLEGIB** 13. Director of Congressional Affairs 14. L-231-11 Office of Congressional DCI Affairs/Legislation

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2 9 APR 1988

OCA 88-1328

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director

FROM: John L. Helgerson

Director of Congressional Affairs

SUBJECT: Response to Senator Helms' Letter Regarding

Panama

Attached, for your signature, is the final response to Senator Helms' letter of 17 February seeking information on allegations that CIA and other entities in the U.S. Government maintained and/or furnished to the Government of Panama or General Noriega information on Members of Congress or their staff. I understand that you have already reviewed an early draft of this response that was prepared by the Inspector General.

You will note that your personal response deals only with the allegations as they pertain to CIA and does not address the broader question raised by Senator Helms about whether other agencies "under the National Security Act of 1947" hold information on Members of Congress or their staff and whether they supplied such information to General Noriega. The Intelligence Community Staff has put this question directly to agencies within the Intelligence Community. In general, they responded by stating that they did not supply information on Members or their staffs to General Noriega and that, with minor exceptions, they do not maintain information on Members or their staff.

Rather than having you personally certify results of investigations conducted by the other agencies of the Intelligence Community, I suggest instead that your letter to Helms simply enclose the written responses of the other agencies. Although these responses are somewhat informal and uneven in the degree of detail they provide, the agencies concerned are aware that we intend to provide their responses to Helms and have declined our invitation to make them more formal.



In his letter, Helms also asked whether the FBI has ever turned over to CIA information on Members or their staff, and whether the FBI has ever conducted wiretaps or surveillance on Helms or his staff. Director Sessions received a similar inquiry from Helms and the Bureau's response will be provided to him shortly. Accordingly, we have referenced the upcoming FBI response in your letter to Helms.

STAT

John L. Helgerson

Attachment As Stated SUBJECT: Memo for DCI on Response to Sen. Helms' Letter

1 - OCA Read

OCA/LEG/	(25 April 1988)		
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17 MAY 1988

OCA 88-1329

The Honorable Jesse A. Helms Committee on Foreign Relations United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

STAT

Dear Senator Helms:

This is in response to your letter of 17 February 1988 regarding the allegations made by Mr. Jose Blandon that CIA has maintained and/or furnished information on members of Congress and their staffs to certain Panamanian officials. The CIA Inspector General (IG) has conducted an Agency-wide fact finding investigation and has found no evidence to support Mr. Blandon's statement.

At the same time, the Operations Directorate's master information systems were searched for the presence of any unauthorized file holdings on Members of Congress or their staffs. This search produced no such material and reconfirmed that Operations Directorate files are maintained in full

conformance with Executive Order 12333 as it relates to U.S. persons. Although CIA's Office of Security does not disseminate information to foreign governments, that office also has reviewed its file holdings and confirmed that they contain nothing not authorized by law.

a memorandum was sent

on 3 March 1988 to all CIA Headquarters employees. This memorandum expanded the scope of the investigation to determine whether or not there were any instances of improper recording or passing of information on Members of Congress or their staffs anywhere in the Agency. It stated that passing of information on Members of Congress and their staffs could relate to information that is classified, unclassified or public knowledge and passage could be oral, written, or via third parties. It asked that any employee possessing information that might relate to this investigation should contact a designated directorate focal point or the Office of the Inspector General. At the same time, the Inspector General sent a "worldwide" cable with the same message to all CIA elements.

Neither effort produced any evidence that would support

Mr. Blandon's statements.

25X1

Your letter also requested that a determination be made on whether any other agency established under the National Security Act of 1947 ever maintained information on Members of Congress

or their staff, or ever furnished such information to the government of Panama or General Noriega. This question was put to agencies within the Intelligence Community. I have enclosed the individual responses from these agencies for your review. The responses indicate that no agency within the Intelligence Community has ever improperly furnished information on Members of Congress or their staff to the government of Panama or General Noriega. Furthermore, with very minor exceptions noted in the enclosed responses, these agencies do not maintain information on Members of Congress or their staff.

I understand that you have also sent a letter to Director Sessions of the FBI that covers the questions posed in your letter to me regarding FBI activities. Director Sessions will be responding directly to you regarding these questions.

In summary, Mr. Blandon claims to have seen reports containing unclassified information on Members of Congress and their staffs, written in English and attributed to CIA and/or the National Security Council. An Agency-wide fact finding investigation conducted by the CIA Inspector General has surfaced no information that would indicate that the reports were provided by CIA or any of its personnel.

Finally, your letter cites reports you have received from "sources in other countries" that parallel Mr. Blandon's testimony with regard to CIA furnishing similar information on other Senators. Because I take such charges very seriously, I would appreciate any additional specific information you can share with me for followup by the CIA Inspector General.

Copies of this letter are being provided to the Chairmen of the House and Senate intelligence committees.

Sincerely yours,

Is/ William H. Webster

William H. Webster Director of Central Intelligence

Enclosures

SUBJECT: Response to Senator Helms' Allegations Regarding Panama

OCA/LEG,	(25 April 1988)	STAT
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DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20340

U-114/GC

1 5 MAR 1938

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY STAFF

SUBJECT:

Senator Helms' Request for Information

Reference: Your memorandum, ICS 4709-88, 2 March 1988, subject as above.

Appropriate elements within the Defense Intelligence Agency were queried concerning the maintenance and dissemination of information on Members of Congress or their staffs. The responses confirm that no improper maintenance or dissemination of this type of information has occurred. Particularly, no improper information has been furnished to the government of Panama or to the Panama Defense Forces under General Noriega.

> LEGNARD H. PERROOTS Lieutanant Ganeral, USAF

Georand It Genson

Director

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF. OF NAVAL OPERATIONS WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

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092/8U528146 17 March 1988

STAT

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY STAFF

SENATOR HELMS' REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Ref:

Your memo ICS 4709-88 of 2 Mar 88

Phoncon LCDR Genzler OP-092J/ (b)

ICS of 14 Mar 88

- 1. In response to Sen. Helms' questions forwarded in reference (a), the Naval Intelligence community has not furnished to the Panamanian government, nor do we maintain, any information on members of Corgress. This negative response is submitted on behalf of the Office of Naval Intelligence, Naval Intelligence Command, Naval Security Group Command and the counterintelligence components of Naval Security and Investigative Command.
- 2. This memorandum confirms the negative response telephonically transmitted in reference (b).

By direction

Copy to: DNI COMNAVINTCOM COMNAVSECGRU COMNAVSECINVCOM



OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301-2000

14 MAR 1988

1 6 MAR 198

POLICY

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY STAFF

SUBJECT: Senator Helms' Request for Information

Reference: Your memorandum. ICS4709-88, subject as above,

2 March 1988 (Encl)

STAT

We note that the ATSD(Intelligence Oversight) previously responded to a request from the staff of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence on whether DoD Intelligence Officials had furnished information on Senators Helms and Kennedy to General Noriega. Subsequently, the JCS, Military Services and agencies formally reported that none of their intelligence or CI components or staffs had furnished such information.

Additionally, it is DoD policy, promulgated in DoD Directive 5200.27. "Acquisition of Information Concerning Persons and Organizations not Affiliated with the Department of Defense." 7 January 1980, that no information shall be collected, processed, stored or disseminated concerning US persons except in very limited circumstances. The directive also proscribes surveillance of US political candidates and elected officials and directs that any information legally collected be destroyed after 90 days unless retention is required by law. The above directive applies to organizations such as Naval Investigative Service and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations which perform both National Foreign Intelligence Program and non-NFIP functions.

The conduct of the intelligence and counterintelligence components is also severely limited under DoD Directive 5240.1 "Activities of DoD Intelligence Components That Affect US Persons," December 1982 and DoD Regulation 5240.1R "Procedures Governing the Activities of DoD Intelligence Components That Affect US Persons", December 1982. Both the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Intelligence Oversight) and this office conduct oversight inspections to ensure no DoD intelligence component collects, files or retains information on U.S. persons in violation of procedures 14 and 15 of DoD Regulation 5240.1-R. Because DoD counterintelligence and investigative files were purged of all information on persons not affiliated with DoD, we cannot answer that part of Senator Helms' question which asks if DoD ever maintained this type of information. All we can assure him is that we do not now, and we did not provide the Panamanians any of the information Mr. Blandon alleged to have been communicated.

2

There are a number of DoD offices that do have certain records pertaining to Congressmen and their staffs. For example, the Defense Investigative Service maintains background investigations on Congressional staff members who require access to DoD classified information, as well as files on Congressmen or Senators who are in the reserves and have security clearances. Legislative Affairs Offices also maintain information needed to perform their functions. Thus, your reply should clearly state that the Director of Central Intelligence is responding only for NFIP components and not all DoD agencies established under the National Security Act of 1947.

John F. Donnelly

Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Counterintelligence and Security)

Enclosure As Stated



Department of Energy

Commence of the second of the

Washington, DC 20585

March 14, 1988

STAT

Legislative Liaison Office Intelligence Community Staff Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear

STAT

In response to General Heinz' March 2, 1988, inquiry regarding Senator Helm's request for information, the following is provided:

A copy of the 1987 Congressional Staff Directory (Charles B. Brownson, Editor) is currently maintained in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Intelligence. This directory is distributed to Department of Energy organizational elements for reference purposes and for routine dealings with members of Congress and their staffs.

The Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Intelligence has no record of ever providing verbal or written information officially or unofficially on members of Congress or their staffs to any official of a foreign government.

Sincerely,

Robert

Deputy Assistant Secretary

for Intelligence







DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY WASHINGTON

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March 10, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: IC Staff Legislative Liaison Office

SUBJECT: Senator Helms' Request for Information

Reference: ICS 4709-88

This memorandum is in response to your request for information regarding the inquiries made recently by Senator Jesse Helms.

With regard to the questions posed in the Helms letter, specifically in the first full paragraph of page two of the letter, it is asked whether, inter alia, the Treasury Department has "ever maintained information -- including biographies, reports of activities, summaries of political philosophy, or other information -- on Members of Congress or their staffs?"

In response to those queries, the following information, with regard to the Department of the Treasury, is relevant: as an executive branch department, with wide-ranging authorities and responsibilities in a host of areas including tax, budget, finance, and enforcement, Treasury maintains close and continuing relationships with Members of Congress, Congressional staff, and Congressional Committees. The routine and normal course of business in the conduct of those relationships necessitates frequent and continuing contact between the various components of the Department and their Congressional counterparts. This contact would result, obviously, in the compilation and maintenance of various files for the purpose of keeping records of correspondence, Congressional requests, and the like. All Treasury entities engaging in contact with the Congress can be expected to have such records; an exact accounting of all such "reports of activities" or "other information" is clearly not feasible.

As for the maintenance of biographies, many Treasury offices, including my own, have copies of publicly available volumes such as Congressional Directory (U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1985-1986), and Congressional Staff Directory (Congressional Staff Directory Ltd., Mount Vernon, VA, 1985).

With regard to the series of questions contained in the second full paragraph of the Helms letter, the Department of the Treasury has engaged in none of the activities about which the Senator inquires.

madacin Sort

Randall M. Fort
Special Assistant to the Secretary
(National Security)

NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

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Mr. John Helgerson Director, Office of Congressional Affairs Room 7D43 Central Intelligence Agency

STAT

Dear John:

of my staff provided to On 11 March 1988 of the IC Staff a response to Senator Helms' letter of February 17, 1988. That letter requested information as to whether certain agencies maintain information on Members of Congress or their staffs and whether such information is disseminated to representatives of any foreign government including, specifically, the Government of Panama. We have since heard that the DCI may forward separate responses from each agency rather than submitting a consolidated Community response. facilitate that approach we are submitting a more formal response to you.

The National Security Agency does not maintain, i.e., collect or retain in name retrievable form, information on Members of Congress or their staffs. NSA fully complies with the provisions in Executive Order 12333 and its implementing regulations.

Certain offices within NSA, e.g., the Office of General Counsel and the Office of Legislative Affairs, do hold information that is available to the general public in publications such as Politics in America, The Congressional Staff Directory, and The Congressional Yellow Book, and subscribes to the Washington Alert legislative tracking system. This publicly available information is used to enable this Agency to conduct official business with the Congress.

For example, when members and staff request to meet with NSA officials at our headquarters or at field sites, my office will announce the visit and provide such information as may be necessary to facilitate both administrative details and substantive discussions: generally, who is coming, their committee memberships, and what they want to learn. NSA offices visited generally report on the outcome of the meeting and what, if any, action needs to be taken. Should members or their staffs request to meet with officials of a foreign government with which we have a cryptologic relationship, again NSA may, as a matter of protocol, make similar kinds of arrangements. NSA has not, however, provided any information on Members of Congress or their staffs to the Government of Panama.

If you have an my staff.	ny questions please call me or	of STAT
	Sincerely,	STAT
	Chief Legislative Affairs	
Copy Furnished:	IC Staff	STAT

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

March 18, 1988

A CONTRACT OF THE PROPERTY OF

UNCLASSIFIED

MEMORANDUM TO: LTG Edward J. Heinz

Director

Intelligence Community Staff

SUBJECT: Senator Helms' Request for Information

REF: (A) Your memorandum of March 2, same subject;

(B) State memorandum to you, March 8, same subject

You have asked INR to respond to the questions in Senator Helms' letter relating to the allegation by Mr. Jose Blandon in testimony to the Congress that the CIA and NSC have maintained and furnished to Panamanian officials information on certain members of Congress and their staffs.

The only information maintained by INR on members of Congress and their staffs consists of published compilations on Congress such as the official Congressional Directory. INR has no classified or restricted information on Congress nor has it passed any information on Congress, verbally or written, to officials of any foreign government including the Government of Panama and the Panamanian Defense Forces under General Manual Noriega.

Morton I. Abramowitz

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OCA 88-0711 10 MAR 1208

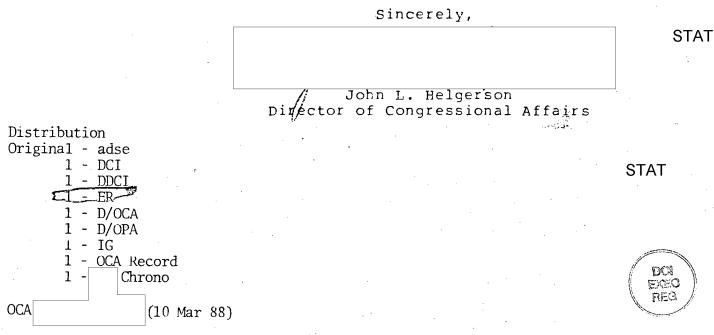
The Honorable Jesse Helms United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Helms:

The Director has asked me to provide a preliminary response to your letter concerning testimony that this Agency has furnished information to Panamanian officials about Members of Congress and their staffs.

Our preliminary investigation of these allegations indicates that they are not correct. However, because of the gravity of the charges the Director has asked all NFIB Agencies to review their holdings to be absolutely certain that none of them has provided information described in your letter or discussed at the Foreign Relations Committee hearings.

We will provide you with the information from our investigation as soon as it becomes available. The Federal Bureau of Investigation will respond separately to your inquiry.



6-531-15

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EXDIT CIA, ROOM 7E12 CIA HQS

Director Intelligence Community Staff

Washington, D.C. 20505

ICS 4709-88 2 March 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: National Foreign Intelligence Program Managers

SUBJECT:

Senator Helms' Request for Information

- 1. In a letter to the Director of Central Intelligence (copy attached), Senator Helms has requested information relating to the recent allegation by Mr. Jose Blandon that the Central Intelligence Agency and National Security Council have maintained, and/or furnished to Panamanian officials information on certain members of Congress and their staffs.
- 2. Please canvass your respective offices for any answers (as applicable) to the questions posed on page two of the attached letter. Negative responses are also requested. All responses are due to the Intelligence Community Staff's Legislative Liaison Office by COB 11 March 1988. Any questions regarding this request should be directed to

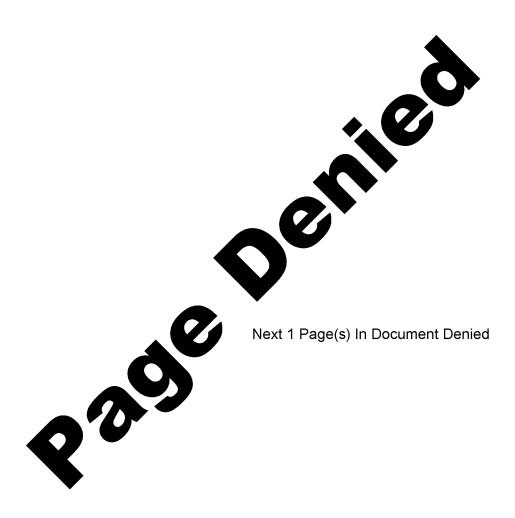
Edward J. Heinz Lieutenant General, USAF

Attachment:

Senator Helms' Ltr Addressed to DCI

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DCI/ICS/LL 2 March 1988)

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1 - DIRNSA LTG William E. Odom, USA, 9A192 Ft. Meade
1 - DNI RADM William O. Studeman, USN, 5C600 Ptgn
1 - ExDir CIA 7E12 CIA Hqs
1 - A/Sec/INR-State Ambassador Morton I. Abramowitz, 6531 Dept of State
1 - DOE-Mr. Troy E. Wade, GM111 Forrestal Bldg
1 - Treas-Mr. Randall M. Fort, 2049 Treasury Bldg
1 - DoD/FCI/CI&S ODUSD(P)-Mr. John F. Donnelly, 3C260 Ptgn

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1- FBI-Mr. James H. Geer, 4026 JEHoover Bldg

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RE ER 0743X-88

OCA called. Needs extension on suspense date -- 8 March 88.

Community and Agency response required.

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FEB Date

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Execétive Secretary

18 Feb 88

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1 7 FEB 1988
From: John Helgerson
We plan to prepare an
answer for your signature.
We plan to prepare an
answer for my signature.
No answer expected or required
John, I prefer to
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ER 0743X-88

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6225

February 17, 1988

The Honorable William Webster Director of Central Intelligence Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Director Webster:

As you know, the Committee on Foreign Relations received very significant sworn testimony last week that indicated that the CIA and the National Security Council have maintained, and/or furnished to certain Panamanian officials, information on certain Members of Congress and their staffs. Since you are charged with responsibility for all agencies under the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, I am writing to you to address these issues.

Inasmuch as Mr. Jose Blandon has appeared at the request of U.S. law enforcement agencies as a witness in major criminal procedures, his credibility appears to be high. Additionally, I have received similar reports coming from sources in other countries which parallel the sworn testimony with regard to the CIA furnishing similar information on other Senators.

I have no fear of correct information maintained on me; nonetheless, it is improper and illegal for the CIA to maintain such files. This is especially so inasmuch as the CIA has access to background check files, which include much uncorroborated data, for all security clearances.

Should a situation ever develop in which information, particularly unevaluated information, is transferred to another government, thereby interfering with the constitutional responsibility of Members of Congress and their staffs, it calls into question the integrity of our intelligence security institutions.

For these reasons, I submit the following questions, answers to which I hope can be provided in unclassified form. In answering these questions, please do not rely on files alone, since the information allegedly passed may have been passed back channel, without files being maintained. It is imperative that an internal investigation be conducted and



all employees in contact with Panamanian government or military officials be questioned.

Has any employee, contract employee, or agent of the CIA -- or any other entity associated with it, including other agencies under the National Security Act of 1947, as amended -- ever maintained information -- including biographies, reports of activities, summaries of political philosophy, or other information -- on Members of Congress or their staffs? If so, which persons, when, and under what circumstances?

Has any employee, contract employee, or agent of the CIA -- or any other entity associated with it, including other agencies under the National Security Act of 1947, as amended -- ever furnished verbal or written information officially or unofficially on Members of Congress or their staffs to any official of a foreign government, and specifically to the government of Panama or the Panama Defense Forces under General Manuel Noriega? If so, which persons, when, and under what circumstances? (Interestingly, I understand that after the CIA publicly denied Blandon's testimony, an inquiry was made to CIA field offices and to NFIB agencies querying whether the denial was accurate. Please include a copy of this message and all responses.)

Because of your previous association with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, I would also ask the following questions, also to be answered in unclassified form to the maximum extent possible.

Did the FBI ever turn over to the CIA or other intelligence agencies any information on Members of Congress or their staffs?

Has the FBI ever initiated wiretaps or surveillance on me or members of my staff, with or without warrant? If so, when, for what reasons, and under what legal authority?

Sincerely,

esse Helms

JESSE HELMS